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FLORIDA, LAND OF ROMANCE HAS AN INTERESTING HISTORY

(Concluded from first page)
In exchange for Cuba, the City of Havana having been captured by the English the previous year. In the meantime the colonists of South Carolina and Georgia made an earnest attempt by force of arms to obtain possession of Florida, but failed.

After holding possession of the territory for twenty years, England receded it to Spain, not because of any love for the Spaniard, but probably because they did not want it to become a part of the United States which just gained its independence, and preferred to keep the Americans from gaining possession of the province if possible. During England's occupancy of twenty years a prosperous colony was established at Smyrna on the East coast under the leadership of William Turnbull, and large quantities of indigo were raised and shipped to Europe.

England made nothing by her recession of Florida to Spain. She also gave up possession of the island of Cuba that her admirals had captured in 1763. When she surrendered Florida there were 25,000 Englishmen living in the territory. Immediately after Spain took possession nearly all of them left and became citizens of Georgia and South Carolina only a few of them returning to England. They refused to live under the cruel and hated rule of the Spaniard whose history on this hemisphere consists of a sordid hunt for gold and unmitigated cruelties to the native inhabitants. But after destroying the two growing civilizations of Mexico and Peru, Time at last set all things even by forcing Spain out of Cuba and the other West India Islands she had so long misruled.

As to the destiny of Florida, it was certain, that sooner or later, it would

be joined onto the United States. Lying south of Georgia and Alabama, the long and comparatively narrow peninsula, stretching for four hundred miles between the Atlantic ocean and the Gulf of Mexico, with a coast line of twelve hundred miles, and by its strategic position with Cuba, commanding even the Caribbean Sea, it could not be permitted to remain under foreign control.

It was plainly the decree of manifest destiny that it must become the southernmost state of this Republic—a decree which received its logical fulfillment in the treaty of annexation with Spain, in 1818—by virtue of which this fair region—the oldest and the newest portion of the magnificent territorial area of the United States—whose products of its cultivated area yield a larger sum per acre than produced in any other state of the union. Discovered 408 years ago by Ponce De Leon, Florida is just being rediscovered by the enterprising people of this country, and this fact, with its commanding geographical position, makes its future certain.

In 1861 Florida resolved to walk no longer in the same path with the majority of the states, and when the soldiers of the Union came down to the land of the orange trees that yield the fairest of the golden fruit, they gave them a bloody reception. After four years of strenuous argument she was persuaded to return to the old ways in which she has ever since been walking contented and prosperous as one of the forty-eight states represented by the Stars and Stripes which shall remain we hope "forever and a day."

Under different flags from that of Spain to that of England, and then back to Spain, and then to the United States, then that of the Confederacy, and back to the Union, covering the most eventful periods of the world, is the record of this noble state. Situated on the great commercial highway between North and South America, Florida's future is secure.

In the exchange of the products of the temperate and tropical zones Florida will witness a mighty traffic. Her phosphate mines, unequaled in any other land, her oranges and grapefruit of unsurpassed excellence, likened to the fruits of Hesperides, garden of the gods, her cities growing with the development of the productive islands of the tropical seas and of both Americans, their development, located as they are, is certain to be along the highways of wonderful commerce—these are prominent features of a not far-off future.

It was my good luck to call the roll of the national house of representatives on the readmission of the State of Florida to the Union, in January, 1865. I have lived to see that this southern peninsula state is much more than a land of flowers—E. W. Barber, in Polk County Record.

CHARLOTTE HARBOR

Weather conditions excellent this week.

Most of our people have enjoyed the Christmas holidays, especially the various programs rendered, including the Christmas tree.

Mr. and Mrs. Moody Stephens of Jacksonville, and Mrs. Hawley Knight of Tampa, were much welcomed at the old home, visiting their parents and other relatives and scores of friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Falkner of Orlando, are welcome visitors with relatives and a host of friends of our town.

Mrs. Effie Hand and little daughter, Hilda are spending the holidays visiting relatives at Sandy Point, Fla., where Mrs. Hand's mother and other relatives live.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Lee Knight motored to Tampa in their new Ford last week to spend Christmas with relatives.

Mrs. Ollie Holloway and children of Fort Ogden, are visiting her sister, Mrs. J. R. Mauck, of our town. Miss Evelyn Danielson, late of Charlotte Harbor, who recently moved to Boca Grande, is in town on a short visit and, as usual smiling among many friends. Come again, Evelyn.

Quite a large crowd went on a picnic to Turtle bay, Tuesday, composed of about three boat loads.

The Futch families of our town are visiting in Boca Grande this week.

Light From Remote Stars

Light, traveling at the rate of 186,000 miles a second, takes about 200,000 years to reach the earth from the most remote stars visible through the highest power telescope.

Flax has been termed the most valuable plant that grows.

POMP AND PAGEENTRY WILL BE FAIR FEATURES

(Concluded from first page)
magnificently decorated floats, including representations of pirate craft and its buccaner "krewes" and floats development of South Florida. Plans on foot also provide for a magnificent display of fireworks on the night of Feb. 5.

Shriners from all over Florida are to stage a monster parade on Thursday, Feb. 8, which is to be "Shrine Day" at the Fair, and Shriners from all parts of the jurisdiction are planning to participate in the affair. It is announced that this is to be the biggest and most thoroughly represented demonstration the Shrine has ever presented in South Florida, and this, to those who are familiar with the manner in which the Shrine makes good its promises, is sufficient assurance that the pageant will be worth going miles to witness.

Besides these, a fourth parade is under consideration, to be held on "Governor's Day," when Gov. Cary A. Hardee and his official staff will attend the Fair. Arrangements for this demonstration determined. With the three big pageants already planned, Gasparilla Carnival of 1923 is certain to be the most entertaining fair, from a spectacular point of view, that ever has been held in Florida.

DANGERS OF A COLD

Punta Gorda People Will Do Well to Heed Them

Many bad cases of kidney trouble result from a cold or chill. Congested kidneys fall behind in filtering the poison-laden blood and backache, headache, dizziness and disordered kidney action follow. Don't neglect a cold. Use Doan's Kidney Pills at the first sign of kidney trouble. Follow this Punta Gorda resident's example:

W. F. Lanier, carpenter, Virginia St., says: "Colds settling on my kidneys affected them and brought on attacks of kidney complaint. I could scarcely get up when I was down, due to the misery in the small of my back. My kidneys acted too freely and the secretions were highly colored. I suffered from severe pains in the top of my head. I procured Doan's Kidney Pills at the Seminole Pharmacy and they rid me of the backache and put my kidneys in good shape."

Price 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Lanier had. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y. adv.

High School Notes

On Tuesday noon, December 19, the Home Economic girls of the Sophomore class served a luncheon in the home economics dining room. The color scheme was red and green, carrying out the Christmas idea. The menu: Oyster cocktail, roast beef, escalloped potatoes, asparagus tips, biscuit, butter, hot chocolate with marshmallows, tomato and lettuce salad, saltines, ambrosia, chocolate wafers. The guests were: Supt. W. E. Bell, Dr. and Mrs. D. N. McQueen, Mr. M. C. Price, Misses Norma Pepper and Alice Strickland.

Picking Method Works Saving
The DeSoto Fruit Company has an enormous crop in their large grove near Nocote. This company gathers each tree as it ripens and declare the extra trouble is paid for in the amount of fruit saved from dropping.

Russian Ruler Enforced Shaving
Peter the Great (1672-1725) enjoined the Russians, even of rank, to shave, but was obliged to keep officers on foot to cut off the beard by force.

TOURIST CLUB MEMBERS DE- LIGHTFULLY ENTERTAINED

Mrs. Midkiff Credited With Arrangement of Program for Meeting of Tuesday Evening

The meeting of the Tourist club, Tuesday evening, Dec. 26, will be long remembered and referred to as one of the super-excellent sessions of the season.

The program committee, Mrs. Midkiff, deserves special mention for the splendid program presented to a crowded house. The meeting opened as usual by singing America and invocation by the chaplain, Rev. Blanchet.

After a short business session we were entertained by the following:

"Let the Rest of the World Go By," by Virginia Harrison, the baby daughter of Mrs. Harrison. Her sweet voice promises much for the future.

Mr. Warnock gave us a few remarks and a reading from Walt Whitman, in his own genial manner.

We next had the unusual pleasure and privilege of hearing a saxophone duet by Mr. and Miss Rickenbach, Miss Louise Gautier presiding at the piano.

Little Miss Marion Horrocks was the star performer of the evening, giving a monologue showing great talent and fine training.

Miss Louise Gautier, also Miss Oliver, favored the club with piano solos, so well rendered that they were recalled with much applause.

The saxophone players were so obliging as to give us another number of their lovely music.

Mrs. Safford gave a poetical selection entitled "Willie Gray and Katie Lynn," in her very pleasing manner.

Mr. Anderson told us a story creating much laughter and applause.

This altogether agreeable meeting was closed by the benediction, after which we had a social session.—Cor. Sec'y.

First Step Highway Beautification

"Florida's first step in highway beautification is to save the natural beauty in which this state abounds and after that to supplement this natural beauty by the orderly planting of trees, shrubs, vines and other flowering plants along the highways according to well worked out plans. Plantings must be made of materials that will not require watering and fertilization. There is an abundance of native plant life available and it should be used first," said Warren H. Manning, of Boston, world famous architect who is in charge of the plans being worked out by the Orange county beautification commission at the meeting of the Orange county chamber of commerce.

Camels Fond of Tobacco

The camel, while never a companionable beast, has one human weakness, an insatiable love for tobacco.

World's Largest Telescope

The largest refracting telescope in the world is in the United States.

Church Notice

In the Presbyterian church next Sunday, Rev. Francis A. Kerns will have appropriate themes for the closing year. At 11:00 a. m. his subject will be "The Past Irrevocable, Where Shall I Go?" and at 7:30 p. m. his theme will be "The Untrodden Path With an Open Door." There is always a welcome to all who come. Sabbath school at 9:45, a. m.

FORT OGDEN

The community Christmas tree, which was in the M. E. church, Saturday evening, was a great success, being enjoyed thoroughly by children and grownups, too. The school furnished a good program, which was well rendered by the children. The Woman's club had charge of the other arrangements and their interest in the whole affair is greatly appreciated by the community at large.

W. A. Johnson and family spent Sunday and Monday visiting relatives in Fort Meade.

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Pooser were guests of relatives here during the holidays.

Mrs. F. E. Moss is visiting her daughters in Tampa while Mr. Moss is with his children in Marietta, Ga.

George Russell is spending the week in New York city.

Miss Thelma Barnhill and little brother, of Fort Myers, are guests of Mrs. E. H. Morgan.

A family reunion was held at the home of W. F. Martin, Christmas day. Among the out-of-town guests were: Will Jones and family, of Arcadia; Dr. Irl Martin and wife and Miss Zelle Martin, of Ocklawaha; Dr. Charles Martin, of Atlanta, Ga.; and the Misses Felder of Cordele, Ga.

Miss Clara Noland, who is teaching in Sebring, is spending the vacation with her parents.

Fire at Moore Haven

The Tampa Rooming House, situated next to the First Bank of Moore Haven, burned for about one hour last Thursday. The fire obtained about 10 minutes start before fire fighting apparatus was brought into play and most of the damage was done during these 10 minutes. Two rooms in the rear of the building were destroyed at a loss of about \$1,000 which was covered by insurance. Moore Haven possesses a \$7,500 outfit which pumps two 3-inch hose at a pressure of 120 pounds. The pump was connected to a nearby cellar which was full of water and with this adequate supply little difficulty was experienced in getting the fire under control. The most exciting part of the incident was the recovery of a bible which had been dropped by Mrs. Wainwright in her hasty flight from the flames. The Bible, in which considerable money had been stored for safekeeping, was later found on the very edge of the fire line, very wet, but with its contents uninjured.

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For the New Year



May it be prosperous for Punta Gorda and the people of both the town and surrounding country, as well as elsewhere.

And supplementary to this wish, may we hope in our efforts to serve to have an increased share of the patronage of all persons needing anything in the lines of Hardware and Furniture?

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